



VIGOROUS "LAZY SERVANTS"

MIKITA, according to the Lithuanian folk songs, is the dance of hired hands who would rather dance than work, but to dance the vigorous Mikita is a job in itself. However, looking at Vince's face (center, front), he seems to enjoy it. Others dancing the Mikita are (counter-clockwise), Eddie Williams, John Burakas and Peter Daužvardis. In the background the interested onlookers are (from left to right), Chicago's Norwegians, Austrians from Vienna University, more Lithuanians and members of the Minnesota Federation. (Foto Eugene Taylor)



ALL THE WAY FROM AUSTRIA

Austrian students from the Vienna University as they appeared at the National Folk Festival which was held in St. Louis, April 12-15, 1950. (Foto E. Taylor)



The above slim, Texas looking gentleman is our Larry Golden, a native true blue Illinoisian. He has the right and a pleasant voice for square dance calling and does a very good job at it. We hate to tell you how young in age he is, but this six footer has a good square dance background — traditional. His parents are callers of a long standing. He attends the folk dance classes at International House and belongs to Beliajus' French group and is a National Folk Festival vet. Yup, you'll be hearing about Larry quite a bit in the near future. I betcha he'll be one of the top men in the Square dance calling field, plus an advantageous rounded folk dance background.



A FIJI DANCE FESTIVAL

Fiji belles and spectators are arriving to witness a (folk) dance festival (left). The leader of the dance (top right) approaches the arena. Two masked dancers in "cloaks" of bright multi-colored plumage are also on hand (bottom left). Even the drummers join in the festivities. These pictures were brought from the Fiji Island by Lee Baskis who took them while serving in the Pacific.



SUR LE BORD DE LA RIVIERE

FRENCH

V. F. BELIAJUS

The Chief characteristic of French dances is their light and breezy running air, or this reason most French dances are excellent material for recreational dancing. This number is from around Isigny in the Department (Province) of Cotentin. It is a dance for two couples and can be done progressively.

Formation: Two couples face each other in a large double circle.

FIGURE I.

Meas. 1-4: The Two couples join hands and circle right with eight running steps.

Meas. 1-4 (Repeated): Reverse above.

Meas. 5-6: With four running steps run to center of own circle of four, raise high joined hands.

Meas. 7-8: With four running steps, run backward to place, lowering hands.

FIGURE II.

Couples face each other. Hands released.

Meas. 9-10: Both girls run toward each other, hook right elbows and twirl in place with running steps.

Meas. 11-12: Hook left elbows with opposite man and turn once around.

Meas. 9-10: repeated: Both girls once again hook right elbows and turn around.

Meas. 11-12: Hook left elbows with opposite man in a regular balroom dance position. All couples facing the clockwise direction move in that direction with four sliding steps (gallops), while the other couples move in the counter-clockwise direction with four sliding steps and meet a new oncoming couple.

Repeat dance from the beginning with the new couple and continue for as long as desired.

BLOSSOM TIME FESTIVAL

Originally the Blossom Time Festival was scheduled for May 13th, but Chicago's old man winter refused to give in to fickle spring. It stayed cold and dreary and when the 13th rolled around there was neither spring nor blossoms and the entire festivities were postponed for a week later when some blossoms did finally emerge. The festivities were held at the Congress Plaza and many nationalities participated. The colors of their costumes vieing with those of the blossoms. Folk dances of a dozen nations (including the Japanese, Lithuanians, Norwegians, Polish, Hungarians, etc) were presented.

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